

To: Renewable Advisory Board

From: Janice McClanaghan,
Energy Office

Date: June 2, 2004

Subject: Update

The following is the June 2004 monthly update for the Renewable Energy Fund:

Supply Programs

- 1) Energetech:
 - a) Fundraising: The Point Judith project was presented to the other state funds at the CESA meeting in May:
 - i) Ohio is interested in offshore wind for Lake Erie, and is open to other offshore technologies as well. The Ohio fund wasn't sure of the wave potential in the Great Lakes though, and the developer has been asked to check on this.
 - ii) New Jersey has 2 RFPs open - one for venture capital and one for funding projects over 1 MW. The only problem is that the project or company has to be in NJ, but Mike Winka at the NJ Fund said that if there were project costs that could be sourced in NJ, soft costs like studies or perhaps hard costs such as components, that could possibly be a way to get around the local requirement. The developer has been asked to follow up.
 - iii) LIPA and CA are also possibilities but have not yet been contacted for follow up.
 - b) Outreach: The developer began Tier One Stakeholders briefings this week in Providence with meetings organized by Rob Stolzman at Adler Pollock. Cynthia Rudge attended the meetings with Rob Stolzman and each meeting was also attended by one other of Rob's colleagues in the government affairs or energy practice who best knew the individual being met with. The group was very well received by the Governor's Policy Director, Jeff Grybowski, by Senate President Joe Montalbano and his chief of staff David Cruise, by Speaker of the House Bill Murphy, by Senator Sheehan of Narragansett, and by the Assistant Attorney General for energy issues. The elected officials were pleased that the developer had come to them at this stage before they begin to hear of the project from their constituents, which was the goal of the exercise.

Cynthia will be back in Providence and Narragansett for a second series of meetings in early June. Dave McDermitt (Clarke Goward) and Betsy MacMillan (Energetech USA) will also be holding some local briefings in the next few weeks and then Tom Denniss and Cynthia will be in the area on June 24/25th specifically to talk to those whom we expect will have the most questions about the project - the fisheries and lobster groups, and the association of residents whose properties will have a view of the project.

- 2) URI Wind Project – The students presented to the Master Plan Review Committee on May 14. The Committee appeared quite receptive to the project, approving it in concept and assigning University staff to work with the student group to take the project to the next level of development. A financing plan and siting considerations are the primary issues to be addressed with University staff.

- 3) Johnson and Wales University Wind Project. – Kevin Shulte from SED submitted a final report of SED's predevelopment activities for the wind project. The facilities staff are reviewing the report and plan to submit it the project to the administration for approval.
- 4) Solar on Schools – Chris Warfel is negotiating with Heliotronics for the purchase of 12 data acquisition systems.
- 5) PV RFP – Of the nine responses to the current round of the PV RFP, seven were submitted by CSGS SunPower Electric for municipal buildings in various locations throughout the State. At total of \$876,528 in incentives has been requested. A recommendation will be made at the June meeting.
- 6) Save the Bay – Save the Bay is requesting \$23,350 in addition to the \$147,226 previously approved by the Fund to cover unforeseen costs due to the unique vegetated roof. They are also requesting a grant in the amount of \$15,350 for a Heliotronics data acquisition system. Photos of the construction project can be viewed at www.savethebay.org.
- 7) Bat Study – Due to a large number of bat kills at two Appalachian Mountain wind projects, the Bat and Wind Energy Cooperative (BWEC), formed by Bat Conservation International (BCI), the American Wind Energy Association (AWEA), the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), intends to collect information about wind energy and bat interactions and to conduct research on the extent of impacts and possible solutions. BWEC is requesting grant funding from the state funds.

Customer Demand Programs

- 8) Renewable Energy Customer Aggregation (RECA) RFP and Proposal to Large Customer Program – Discussions between the developer and the RECA group are ongoing. Development of a financial modeling tool continued and a draft version was supplied to the RECA members. The model is necessary for analyzing the various elements of the transaction cash flows, including the Fund Large Customer Incentive. The developer has not yet provided final terms of the purchase for evaluation by the RECA group.
- 9) State House Green Power Purchase – The final draft of the RFP for the purchase of green power for the State House has been provided to Purchasing, Department of Administration for distribution.
- 10) Small Customer Program/PP&L – PP&L is submitting an application to register their second GreenUp product (a 50% offering) for the Small Customer Incentive Program. A recommendation will be made to accept the product into the program at the June meeting.

PP&L is also requesting that the Fund lift the incentive cap and remove the requirement for credit support from the Small Customer Program. Attached is a letter from Erich Stephens making this request.
- 11) PP&L Update - An update from PP&L is attached.

Outreach

12) Smartpower –

- a) The television and radio campaign continues apace. Smartpower continues to receive accolades about the ads.
- b) On May 28th Smartpower sent out 139,000 pieces of direct mail. This flier was sent to people who registered high on what we call our “SmartPower Matrix”. These are Rhode Islanders who meet a certain financial threshold, are members of various clubs and organizations, and thus make them more likely prospects to purchase clean energy. This is the first of three direct mail pieces which will be sent. (May, June and July)
- c) SmartPower organized media coverage for Community Energy’s “Blade” event at Whole Foods Supermarket on Main Street in Providence. As a result we had 4 television cameras, The Providence Journal (reporter and still camera) and various radio stations. Brian Keane spoke and urged people to visit www.cleanenergyri.com.
- d) www.cleanenergyri.com was updated this month to make it more “user friendly”. Please visit the website.
- e) Smartpower is preparing for the “Cox Charity Classic” – a bicycle race through Providence which is being sponsored by www.CleanEnergyRI.com. The event will be a unique opportunity for SmartPower to help bring the clean energy message to our targeted audience.

13) Apeiron Sustainable Living Festival – A reminder for the Apeiron 2004 Rhode Island Sustainable Living Festival: **THIS** Saturday, June 5th, 11am to 7pm. The 40 –plus workshops will include an alternative energy vehicle fleet and "Green" house tours. Tickets are: Individual \$20 advance, \$25 day of show & Family \$45 advance, \$55 day of show.

14) Think Energy – Attached for review is a list of proposed invitees to the C&I (RECA) workshop being sponsored by the Fund through Think Energy. Please review the list and let us know by email or at the June meeting if you know of someone who should be invited.

15) Roger Williams University – Professor Pavlides has submitted a request for \$4,800 (\$12/per hour X 40 hours X 10 weeks) from the Renewable Energy Fund to support the one full time 2004 summer intern position to work with Professor Pavlides on wind monitoring and photosimulations. A proposal is attached.

16) Parkview Middle School Request – A request has been received from the School for \$5000 to send students to the NEED (National Energy Education Development Project) Youth Awards in Washington, DC, in late June 2004.

Administration

17) Update to the Legislature: Attached is a final draft version of the Update for Calendar 2003 that was sent to the legislature in May.